

THE UNITED STATES OF AVERIOR

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Monsanto Company

MARCHS, THERE HAS BEEN PRESENTED TO THE

Secretary of Agriculture

AN APPLICATION REQUESTING A CERTIFICATE OF PROTECTION FOR AN ALLEGED DISTINCT VARIETY OF SEXUALLY REPRODUCED, OR TUBER PROPAGATED PLANT, THE NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF WHICH ARE CONTAINED IN THE APPLICATION AND EXHIBITS, A COPY OF WHICH IS HEREUNTO ANNEXED AND MADE A PART HEREOF, AND THE VARIOUS REQUIREMENTS OF LAW IN SUCH CASES MADE AND PROVIDED HAVE BEEN COMPLED WITH, AND THE TITLE THERETO IS, FROM THE RECORDS OF THE PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION OFFICE, IN THE APPLICANT(S) INDICATED IN THE SAID COPY, AND WHEREAS, UPON DUE EXAMINATION MADE, THE SAID APPLICANT(S) IS (ARE) ADJUDGED TO BE ENTITLED TO A CERTIFICATE OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION UNDER THE LAW.

NOW. THEREFORE, THIS CERTIFICATE OF PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION IS TO GRANT UNTO THE SAID APPLICANT(S) AND THE SUCCESSORS, HEIRS OR ASSIGNS OF THE SAID APPLICANT(S) FOR THE TERM OF TWENTY YEARS FROM THE DATE OF THIS GRANT, SUBJECT TO THE PAYMENT OF THE REQUIRED FEES AND PERIODIC REPLENISHMENT OF VIABLE BASIC SEED OF THE VARIETY IN A PUBLIC REPOSITORY AS PROVIDED BY LAW, THE CHITCH EXCLUDE OTHERS FROM SELLING THE VARIETY, OR OFFERING IT FOR SALE, OR REPRODUCING IT, OR OFFING IT, OR EXPORTING IT, OR CONDITIONING IT FOR PROPAGATION, OR STOCKING IT FOR ANY OF THE PURPOSE. OR CONDITIONING IT FOR PROPAGATION, OR STOCKING IT FOR ANY OF THE ABOVE OR USING IT IN PRODUCING A HYBRID OR DIFFERENT VARIETY THEREFROM, TO THE EXTENT

SOLD BY VARIETY NAME ONLY AS A CLASS OF CERTIFIED SEED AND (2) SHALL CONFORM TO THE SOLD BY VARIETY NAME ONLY AS A CLASS OF CERTIFIED SEED AND (2) SHALL CONFORM TO THE SOLD BY VARIETY NAME ONLY AS A CLASS OF THE RIGHTS. (84 STAT. 1542, AS AMENDED, 7 U.S.C. 2321

WHEAT, COMMON

'Branson'

In Testimonn Murrers, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Alant Anricty Protection Office to be affixed at the City of Washington, D.C. this fifth day of June, in the year two thousand and six.

Mill Gobson
Secretary of Mariculture

Stort: Commissioner

Commissioner
Plant Variety Protection Office
Agricultural Marketing Service

Exhibit A.

Origin and Breeding History of Branson

Branson is a soft red winter wheat developed by Agripro Wheat located at Brookston IN. Branson was crossed in the 1993 spring greenhouse having the pedigree Pioneer 2737W by Agripro experimental variety 89I-4584A (Pike/Florida 302). F1 seed was increased in Jonesboro Arkansas. F2 and F3 bulk populations were grown in Brookston Indiana. The F4 bulk in 1997 was abandoned because of poor stands. Remnant seed was planted in 1998 to recreate the F4 bulk. Sixty-one heads were selected and planted as F5 head rows. The head row that became "Branson" was selected for medium height, good straw strength and moderate resistance to stripe rust. Branson entered preliminary yield testing in 2000. From the 2001 test increase seed of the experimental line that became Branson, 100 uniform heads were selected and planted in an isolated head row purification block in 2002. Ninety-nine of these 100 head rows were judged "true to type", bulk harvested, and sent to Colorado for initial Breeder Seed increase.

In 2003, a 0.2 acre initial Breeders seed increase was grown in Lucerne, Colorado that produced 1016 pounds of Breeder seed. In 2004 an additional 5.5 acre Breeder seed increase was grown in Lucerne, Colorado that produced 24,000 pounds of Foundation seed.

Branson has been uniform and stable since 2003. Less than 0.8% of the plants were rogued from the Breeder Seed increase in 2004. Approximately 90% of the rogued variant plants were taller height wheat plants (8 to 15 cm) and 10% were awned plants.

Exhibit B. Statement of Distinctness

Branson is most similar to the soft red winter wheat 'Gibson'. However, it can be easily distinguished by the following morphological characteristics:

- Branson has a dark green plant color at boot stage (R.H.S. Chart color number #137B; Lucerne, CO 2003-2004). Gibson has a blue-green plant color at boot stage (R.H.S. Chart color number #122B; Lucerne, CO 2003-2004).
- Branson has a narrow glume width; Gibson has a midwide glume width (Lucerne, CO 2003-2004).
- Branson has a long glume length; Gibson has a midlong glume length (Lucerne, CO 2003-2004).
- Branson has a strap head shape; Gibson has a tapering head shape (Lucerne, CO 2003-2004).

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0581-0055. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 2.5 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital or family status, political beliefs, parental status, or protected genetic information. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE SCIENCE DIVISION BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND 20705 **EXHIBIT C**

OBJECTIVE DESCRIPTION OF VARIETY WHEAT (Triticum Spp.)

	WHEA	T (Trit	icum S	pp.)				
NAME OF APPLICANT(S) TEMPORARY OR EXPERIMENTAL DESIGNATION					VARIETY NAME			
Monsanto Company	mpany M00-3701				Branso	n		
ADDRESS (Street and No. or RD No., City, State, Zip	Code, and Country)				nor debical	DSE ONLY		
800 N. Linbergh Blvd.				; ;	PVPO NUMBER			
Creve Coeur, MO 63167					\$** \$***	200500	195	
PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS	S CAREFULLY:							
Place the appropriate number that de) when number is either 99 or less or Comparative data should be determin used to determine plant colors; desig lack of response may delay progress	9 or less respectively. Data for ned from varieties entered in the nate system used:	or quantitat he same tr	tive plant ch ial. Royal H	aracters sho	uld be based lociety or an	d on a minimum of 1	00 plants. tandard may be	
1. KIND:		2. \	/ERNALIZA	TION:				
1=Common 2=Durum 3=Club 4=Other (specify)		2	1=Sprin 2=Winte 3=Other	_		<u>.</u>	
3. COLEOPTILE ANTHOCYANIN:		4.	IUVENILE F	PLANT GRO	WTH:			
1=Absent 2	=Present		2	1=Prost	rate	2=Semi-erect	3=Erect	
5. PLANT COLOR (boot stage):		6. F	LAG LEAF	(boot stage):			
1 = Yellow-Green 2 = Green	1		1	1 = Erec	ot ,	2 = Recur	ved	
3 = Blue-Green			2	1 = Not	Twisted	2 = Twiste	ed	
		•	2	1 = Wax	Absent	2 = Wax F	Present	
7. EAR EMERGENCE:								
0 0 0 N	umber of Days (Average)							
0 1 N	umber of Days Earlier	Than	*Patto	on				
	ame As	.*						
No.	umber of Days Later Than	** *Relative	to a PVPO-	Approved Co	mmercial Va	ariety Grown in the S	Same Trial	
8. ANTHER COLOR: 1 = YELLOW	2 = PURPLE							
T-170-05 (4-03) dealezed by the Plant Variety Protection Office using M	icrosoft Word	·						

9. PLANT HEIGHT: (fro	om soil to top of head, excludi	ng awns):			200500	408
0 0	cm (Average)			·	evv j v v	195
	cm Taller Than	*	ş			
	Same As	*				*
0 3	cm Shorter Than	* <u>P</u>	atton			
10. STEM:						
A. ANTHOCYAN!	N	D.	INTERNODE			
1	1 = Absent 2 = Present	t	1	1 = Hollow	2 = Semi-solid	3 = Solid
1		i i	5	Number of Nodes	;	
B. WAXY BLOOM	¢ 1		PEDUNCLE			
2	1 = Absent 2 = Present	i. A	0	1 = Erect	2 = Recurved	3 = Semi-ere
	1 - Absent 2 - 1 103011	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,			2 - 10001700	0 - 0cm-cic
			1 4	cm Length		
C. HAIRINESS (la	st internode of rachis)	F.	AURICLE			
2	1 = Absent 2 = Present		2	Anthocyanin	1 = Absent	2 = Present
		. (2	Hair:	1 = Absent	2 = Present
1. HEAD: (At Maturity)			·			
A. DENSITY		, C.	CURVATURE			•
2	1 = Lax 2 = Middense (Laxidense)		2	1 =Erect 2 = Inclined		
	3 = Dense		L	3 = Recurved		
B. SHAPE	1 = Tapering	, D .	AWNEDNESS	1 = Awnless	•	
3	2 = Clavate 3 = Strap	7	3	2 = Apically awnle 3 = Awnletted	etted	
	4 = Other (specify)			4 = Awned		
2. GLUMES: (At Maturi	ty)	\$. \$:			
A. COLOR		Ε.	BEAK WIDTH			
1	1 = White 2 = Tan		2	1 = Narrow 2 = Medium		
***************************************	3 = Other (specify)	<u> </u>	1	3 = Wide	•	•
B. SHOULDER		: / *	GLUME LENG			
2	1 = Wanting 2 = Ol 3 = Rounded 4 = So		3	1 = Short (ca. 7m) 2 = Medium (ca. 8		
	5 = Elevated 6 = Ap 7 = Other (Specify)	piculate &		3 = Long (ca. 9mr	n)	
C. SHOULDER WI			WIDTH			
1	1 = Narrow	4	1	1 = Narrow (ca. 3r		
	2 = Medium 3 = Wide		. !	2 = Medium (ca. 3 3 = Long (ca. 4mn		
D. BEAK		1				
1	1 = Obtuse	,			,	
	2 = Acute 3 = Acuminate	4				
ST-470-06 (4-03) designed by the Plant Varie		dis			THE COURT OF THE C	:
			·	de después to the contraction of		i
		¥			: 	

13. SEED:			naaeaa4ae
A. SHAPE		E. COLOR	200500195
1	1 = Ovate 2 = Oval	3	1 = White 2 = Amber
	3 = Elliptical	<u>. </u>	3 = Red
B. CHEEK		F. TEXTUR	4 = Other (Specify)
	1=Kounded		т = наго
<u> </u>	2=Angular	2	2 = Soft 3 = Other (Specify)
C. BRUSH		G. PHENO	REACTION (See Instructions)
2	1 = Short	red 0	1 = Ivory 4 = Dark Brown 2 = Fawn 5 = Black
D. CREASE	3 = Long	H. SEED W	3 = Light Brown
<i>5.</i> OKE 102	1 = Width 60% or less of Kernel		T _ 1
1	2 = Width 80% or less of Kernel 3 = Width Nearly as Wide as Kernel	N	g/1000 Seed (Whole number only)
	o Waaring as was as rome.	I. GERM SI	ZE
1	1 = Depth 20% or less of Kernel 2 = Depth 35% or less of Kernel	2	1 = Small 2 = Midsize
£	3 = Depth 50% or less of Kernel	<u> </u>	3 = Large
14. DISEASE:	PLEASE INDICATE THE SPECIFIC RACE OR STI		
	(0 = Not Tested 1 = Susceptible	2 = Resistan ⊿ ⊃	•
0	Stem Rust (Puccinia graminis f. sp. tritici) Field	=	Leaf Rust (Puccinia recondita f. sp. tritici) Field races
4	Stripe Rust (Puccinia striiformis) race	=	Loose Smut (Ustilago tritici)
	Tan Spot (Pyrenophora tritici-repentis)	0	Flag Smut (Urocystis agropyri)
0	Halo Spot (Selenophoma donacis)		Common Bunt (Tilletia tritici or T. laevis)
	Septoria nodorum (Glume Blotch)		Dwarf Bunt (Tilletia controversa)
0	Septoria avenae (Speckled Leaf Disease)	0	Karnal Bunt (Tilletia indica)
4	Septoria tritici (Speckled Leaf Blotch)	4	Powdery Mildew (Erysiphe graminis f. sp. tritici) Field races
3	Scab (Fusarium spp.)	0	Snow Molds
0	Black Point (Kernel Smudge)	0	Common Root Rot (Fusarium, Cochliobolus and Bipolaris spp.)
0	Barley Yellow Dwarf Virus (BYDV)	0	Rhizoctonia Root Rot (Rhizoctonia solani)
3	Soilborne Mosaic Virus (SBMV)	0	Black Chaff (Xanthomonas campestris pv. translucens)
0	Wheat Yellow (Spindle Streak) Mosaic Virus	0	Bacterial Leaf Blight (Pseudomonas syringae pv. syringae)
0	Wheat Streak Mosaic Virus (WSMV)		Other (specify)
	Other (specify)		Other (specify)
	Other (specify)		Other (specify)
	Other (specify)		Other (specify)
15. INSECT:	• •	•	I=Tolerant)
0	PLEASE SPECIFY BIO Hessian Fly (Mayetiola destructor)	TIFE (where n	eeded) Other (specify)
0	Stem Sawfly (Cephus spp.)		Other (specify)
0	Cereal Leaf Beetle (Oulema melanopa)		Other (specify)
ST-470-06 (4-03) designed by th	Plant Variety Protection Office using Microsoft Word		

(0=Not Tested; 1=Susceptible; 2=Resistant; 3=Intermediate;

4=Tolerant)

15. INSECT: (continued)

0 0		ded) ther (<i>specify</i>) ther (<i>specify</i>)	2005	00195
ADDITIONA	L INFORMATION ON ANY ITEM ABOVE, OR GENERAL COMMENTS:		·	
_				

Exhibit D. Additional Description of Branson

Branson is a soft red winter wheat bred and developed by AgriPro Wheat. Branson is a medium height semidwarf variety with good straw strength. Branson is moderately resistant to Septoria Leaf Blotch, Stripe rust, and Powdery mildew. Moderately susceptible to Soilborne Mosaic virus, Leaf rust and Fusarium Head Blight.

Juvenile growth habit is semierect. Plant color at boot stage is dark green. Flag leaf at boot stage is erect and twisted. Waxy bloom is present on the head, stem and flag leaf sheath. Anther color is yellow. Head shape is strap, middense and awnletted. Glumes are glabrous, narrow in width and long in length with oblique shoulders and obtuse beaks. Seed shape is ovate. Brush hairs are midlong in length and occupy a large area of the seed tip. Seed crease depth is shallow and width is narrow. Seed cheeks are rounded.

Primary adaptation is the wheat growing regions of Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio.

AgriPro Wheat

SOFT WHEAT QUALITY SUMMARY

		Millin	g Quality		Baki	ng Quality	•	
Year	Loc	Brk Flr %	Tot Flr %	WhtPro 14%mb	FlrProt 14%mb	C.Diam mm	T. R	Norris Hard
			BF	RANSON				
2003	HN	40.7	70.4	9.6	8.3	18.4	6	5
2003	FO	43.5	65.8	9.8	8.5	19.0	5	-2
2003	DA	45.5	68.7	10.0	8.6	19.5	2	-11
2003	\mathbf{SM}	41.6	70.7	10.1	8.6	18.8	5	11
2002	FO	42.3	68.0	10.8	9.4	18.2	6	-8
2002	HN	41.0	65.2	10.4	9.5	18.8	5	8
2001	FO	45.9	72.3	11.0	9.2	17.7	5	16
2001	HN	44.7	74.3	9.7	8.5	18.5	5	17
	AVE	43.1	69.4	10.2	8.8	18.6	4.9	6

Brk Flr: Break flour Quad Sr. mill

Tot Flr: Break + Reduction flour Quad Sr. mill

CDiam: Cookie diameter of 2 cookies

TG: Cookie Top Grain rating, 1=excellent 9=Unacceptable

2004 Disease Notes {1-9 scale with 1 best}

		Sept						Powdery	Stripe
	Tan Spot	Nodorum	Sept tritici	FHB %	BYDV	SBMV	Leaf Rust	Mildew	Rust
Branson		2	3	35		4	4 .	4	3
Patton		7	4	10		1	2	5	8

Tan spot:

Septoria nodorum: Carmi IL, Marion OH

Septoria tritici: Lansing MI FHB: Hopkinsville KY, Pana IL

BYDV:

SBMV: Haubstadt IN, Hopkinsville KY

Leaf rust: St. Jacobs IL, Carmi IL

Powdery mildew: Findlay OH, Marion OH, Lansing MI

Stripe rust: Jonesboro AR, Cleveland MS

2003 Disease Notes {1-9 scale with 1 best}

		Sept		· ·				Powdery	Stripe
	Tan Spot	Nodorum	Sept tritici	FHB %	Rhizoc	SBMV	Leaf Rust	Mildew	Rust
Branson			3	15	3		3	3	2
Patton			4	15	2		3	- 6	7 -

Tan spot:

Septoria Nodorum:

Septoria Tritici: Marion OH, Ansonia OH

FHB: Brookston IN Rhizoc: Findlay OH

SBMV:

Leaf rust: Dewitt AR

Powdery mildew: Marion OH, Brookston IN Stripe rust: Cleveland MS, Dewitt AR,

2002 Disease Notes {1-9 scale with 1 best}

2002 10100	Juse 14016	Sept	SOUTO WIL	11 1 0030)				Powdery	Stripe
	Tan Spot	Nodorum	Sept tritici	FHB %	BYDV	SBMV	Leaf Rust	Mildew	Rust
Branson			3			. 4		1	
Patton			4			3		5	

Tan spot:

Septoria Nodorum:

Septoria Tritici: Carmi IL

FHB: BYDV:

SBMV: Ansonia OH, Sullivan IN

Leaf rust:

Powdery mildew: Findlay OH

Stripe rust:

Yield data: Branson 2004 2003 2002 Bu/A 78 86 74 % of trial mean 111% 109% 107% Reps 2 2 2 # Locs 10 11 9 Checks BW 486 70 BW 4861 80 Patton 71 Patton 80 Patton 69 Pio 25R37 74 78 Pio 25R37 87 Pio 25R37 McCormick 71 Roane 78 69 Roane

2004 Test locations:

Ohio: Findlay, Marion

Indiana: Brookston, Haubstadt, Woodburn

Illinois: Pana, St. Jacobs Missouri: Sikeston Michigan: Lansing

Kentucky:

Arkansas: Jonesboro

2003 Test locations: Ohio: Findlay, Ansonia

Indiana: Brookston, Haubstadt, Woodburn

Illinois: Carmi, Pana, St. Jacobs

Missouri: Sikeston Kentucky: Hopkinsville Arkansas: Jonesboro

2002 Test locations:

Ohio: Findlay, Marion

Indiana: Haubstadt, Brookston, Sullivan

Illinois: Carmi, St. Jacobs

Missouri: Sikeston Arkansas: Jonesboro

200500195

Additional Yield Data:					
M00-3701	2004		2003	•	2002
Bu/A	73		103		66
Reps	3		3		2
# Locs	1	2			1
Checks BW 486	72	BW 486	104	Coker 9663	75
Patton	68	Patton	77	Patton	61
Pio 25R3	7 52	Pio 25R37	90	Pio 25R37	49
Truman	60	Roane	94	Roane	71

2004 Test - Columbia MO

2003 Test – Columbia MO, Everest KS 2002 Test – Columbia MO

Additional Yield Data:

M00-3701	2004
Bu/A	80
	•
Reps	2
•	
# Locs	3
O	=0
ChecksTribute	78
Patton	73
McCormi	ck 72

2004 Test - Clarksville MD, Wye Milles MD, Providence Forge VA

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE Application is required in order to determine if a plant variety protection AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE certificate is to be issued (7 U.S.C. 2421). The information is held confidential until the certificate is issued (7 U.S.C. 2426). **EXHIBIT E** STATEMENT OF THE BASIS OF OWNERSHIP 1. NAME OF APPLICANT(S) 2. TEMPORARY DESIGNATION 3. VARIETY NAME OR EXPERIMENTAL NUMBER Monsanto Company M00-3701 Branson 4. ADDRESS (Street and No.or RD No., City, State, Zip Code, and Country) 5. TELEPHONE (include area code) 6. FAX (include area code) 314.694.7250 800 N. Linbergh Blvd. 314.694.6089 Mail Zone:E3NA 7. PVPO NUMBER 200500195 Creve Coeur, MO 63167 8. Does the applicant own all rights to the variety? Mark an "X" in the appropriate block. If no, please explain YES NO 9. Is the applicant (individual or company) a U.S. national or a U.S. based company? If no, give name of country, X NO 10. Is the applicant the original owner? YES NO If no, please answer one of the following: a. If the original rights to variety were owned by individual(s), is (are) the original owner(s) a U.S. National(s)? YES NO If no, give name of country b. If the original rights to variety were owned by a company(ies), is (are) the original owner(s) a U.S. based company? If no, give name of country 11. Additional explanation on ownership (Trace ownership from original breeder to current owner. Use the reverse for extra space if needed): Please see following page.

PLEASE NOTE:

Plant variety protection can only be afforded to the owners (not licensees) who meet the following criteria:

- 1. If the rights to the variety are owned by the original breeder, that person must be a U.S. national, national of a UPOV member country, or national of a country which affords similar protection to nationals of the U.S. for the same genus and species.
- 2. If the rights to the variety are owned by the company which employed the original breeder(s), the company must be U.S. based, owned by nationals of a UPOV member country, or owned by nationals of a country which affords similar protection to nationals of the U.S. for the same genus and species
- 3. If the applicant is an owner who is not the original owner, both the original owner and the applicant must meet one of the above criteria.

The original breeder/owner may be the individual or company who directed the final breeding. See Section 41(a)(2) of the Plant Variety Protection Act for definitions.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0581-0055. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 0.1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing the instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

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Exhibit E. Statement of the Basis of Applicant's Ownership

The variety for which Plant Variety Protection is hereby sought was developed by Curtis Beazer, an employee of Agripro Wheat. By agreement between employees and Agripro Wheat all rights to any invention, discovery, or development made by the employee while employed by Agripro Wheat, were assigned to Agripro Wheat, with no rights of any kind pertaining to 'Branson' being retained by the employees.

By contractual agreement the variety 'Branson' was purchased from Agripro Wheat, a business unit of Advanta USA, Inc. in June of 1996 and is currently owned by Monsanto Company.